

brief contained an unusual argument regarding the jurisdiction of the Administrative Law Judge. Both defendant and plaintiff agree that lead counsel was extremely experienced in the area of Social Security disability. Plaintiff further points out that the other five lawyers consulted were experienced in Social Security law. Plaintiff was represented at the administrative level by the same firm and thus counsel was already familiar with the facts of the case.

The court has reviewed at length the thorough and carefully prepared Summary of Time and Activities generated by computer software, submitted by plaintiff. There is no way the court can say precisely how long it “should” take to write a letter, research an issue, discuss with other counsel, or draft a brief. There is no standard or generalized criteria by which such issues can be calculated because each case, each set of facts and each legal argument is separate and individual. The court cannot possibly give line item approval or make line item reductions where six attorneys working together are providing input to the final result. Nevertheless, the court finds that with any six attorneys there will be some duplication of effort - - especially when the entry is denominated “discussion” or “reviewed”. The court does not mean to imply that the work was not done - - rather, merely, that the standard is “reasonableness” and 67.50 hours is excessive even for the issues in this case. The court finds that 55 hours is a more reasonable figure; 55 attorney hours at \$161.75 per hour is \$8, 896.25; plus \$90 for paralegal work amounts to a total of \$8,986.25.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff’s Motion for Attorney’s Fees is **GRANTED** in part and **DENIED** in part. [Doc. 27]

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that plaintiff be awarded attorney’s fees under the EAJA in the amount of \$8,986.25 payable to Gateway Legal Services, Inc.

/s/Mary Ann L. Medler
MARY ANN L. MEDLER
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Dated this 19th day of July, 2006.